

Llandeilo Rural District Council.



Annual Report

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER

1958

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PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Dr. GLADYS M. HERBERT, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

GWYN THOMAS, B.A., M.P.H.I.A.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

D. BRINLEY EVANS, M.P.H.I.A., A.R.S.H.

ERIC JONES, M.P.H.I.A.

CLERK

ANN LLEWELYN-PARRY.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

Area of the District	..	..	..	236,649 acres.
Population—Llandeilo R.D.C.	..	..	..	25,410.
Number of Dwelling Houses	..	..	..	7,871.
Number of Council Houses	..	..	..	971.
Average number of persons per house	..	..	..	3.23.
Number of Births	..	..	..	346.
Number of Deaths	..	..	..	321.
Rateable Value	..	..	..	£140,889.
Sum represented by penny rate	..	..	..	£536 19s. 9d.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1958.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council.

Mr. Chairman and Members,

I have pleasure in presenting my Seventh Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1958.

It is gratifying to be able to report again that it has been a good year for public health in the district, in spite of the fact that it was a particularly wet year.

The estimated population figure was down again by sixty this year, but there was an increase in the number of births registered.

All forms of heart disease again accounted for over a third of the deaths, 33% of the males and 38% of the female deaths.

Cancer caused 10% of the male and almost 20% of the female deaths and respiratory diseases 14% of the male and practically 9% of the female deaths.

Once again I wish to thank the Senior Public Inspector and his Assistants for their loyal co-operation in the work of the department, also other members of the staff and the Council for their continued interest and support.

I am, your obedient servant,

GLADYS M. HERBERT,

Medical Officer of Health.

VITAL STATISTICS.

LIVE BIRTHS.

	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	340	159	181
Illegitimate	6	3	3
Legitimate and Illegitimate	346	162	184

STILL BIRTHS.

	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	6	4	2
Illegitimate	0	0	0
Legitimate and Illegitimate	6	4	2

BIRTH RATES, DEATH RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY AND MATERNAL DEATH RATES.

BIRTH RATES.

	Llandeilo R.D.C.	C.C.C.	England & Wales
Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population ..	13.62	14.14	16.40
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births ..	1.73		
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total births	17.05	21.60	

INFANT DEATHS.

Under 4 weeks.

	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	7	3	4
Illegitimate	0	0	0

Under 1 Year.

	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	13	5	8
Illegitimate	0	0	0

INFANT DEATH RATES.

per 1,000 Live Births.

	Llandeilo R.D.C.	C.C.C.	England & Wales
All causes under 1 year-total	37.57	35.51	22.50
Legitimate	37.57		
Illegitimate	0.0		
All causes under 4 weeks-total	20.23	26.32	

CLASSIFICATION OF INFANT DEATHS.

	Premat- urity		Cerebral Haemorr- hage		Congenital Malform- ations		Pneumonia		Totals	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 day	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	2	1
Under 1 week	1	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	3
1—3 months	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	1	2
3—6 months	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
6—12 months	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Total	1	3	1	1	2	1	0	3	4	8

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

	Llandeilo R.D.C.	C.C.C.	England & Wales
Number of Deaths	0	0	
Deaths per 1,000 (live and still births)	0	0.04	0.43

DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES IN 1958.

Number of Deaths—321.

Male—177.

Female—144.

40% of all the male deaths were 70 years and over.

42% of all the female deaths were 70 years and over.

13% of all the male deaths were 80 years and over.

18% of all the female deaths were 80 years and over.

0.6% of all the male deaths were 90 years and over.

1.6% of all the female deaths were 90 years and over.

DEATH RATES.

	Llandeilo R.D.C.	C.C.C.	England & Wales
All Causes	12.63	13.87	11.70

NUMBER OF DEATHS FROM EACH DISEASE
with rates per 1,000 population.

	Male	Female	Rates
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	2	1	0.12
Other tuberculous diseases	0	0	0.00
Poliomyelitis	0	0	0.00
Other infective & parasitic diseases	0	0	0.00
Cancer	19	28	1.85
Leukaemia and Aleukaemia	2	1	0.12
Diabetes	1	1	0.08
Vascular lesions of nervous system	20	24	1.73
Coronary disease	31	11	1.65
Hypertension with heart disease . .	4	4	0.31
Other Heart Disease	24	23	1.85
Other Circulatory diseases	12	8	0.79
Influenza	3	2	0.19
Pneumonia (all forms)	3	5	0.31
Bronchitis	4	4	0.31
Other respiratory diseases	13	0	0.51
Peptic ulcers	0	3	0.12
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea . .	0	0	0.00
Nephrosis and Nephritis	0	2	0.08
Hyperplasia of prostate	6	0	0.23
Pregnancy or Child Birth	0	0	0.00
Congenital malformations	3	1	0.15
Motor Accidents	2	0	0.08
All other accidents	6	6	0.49
Suicide	3	1	0.15
Other defined & ill-defined diseases	19	19	1.49
All causes	177	144	12.63

DEATHS FROM CANCER.

There was one more death from Cancer. The increase was in the number of female deaths—19 male and 28 female. There was a reduction in the number of deaths from Cancer of the Lung and Bronchus to 3 compared with 5 the previous year. These men were between the ages of 63 and 76.

Our mortality rate was lower than that for the whole county.

CLASSIFICATION OF CANCER DEATHS ACCORDING TO SITES AND AGES.

	Stomach		Colon		Lung and Bronchus	Breast	Genito Urinary		Pancreas	Leukaemia		Other Sites
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
10—20 years	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20—30 years	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
30—40 years	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
40—50 years	..	..	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
50—60 years	..	..	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	1
60—70 years	..	..	3	1	2	1	2	1	—	—	1	—
70—80 years	..	..	2	4	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
80 and over	..	..	1	4	—	—	2	—	—	1	1	—
Total	..	..	7	9	3	1	6	4	0	2	2	1
											2	5

DEATH RATE FROM CANCER.

L.LANDEILLO R.D.C.—1.85

C.C.C.—2.16

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER COMMUNICABLE DISEASES.

The outbreak of influenza due to the Asian strain of the virus, which commenced in the Autumn of 1957 carried on into the early months of 1958, but it remained a comparatively mild infection.

Measles was fairly prevalent in the early spring and 89 cases were notified during the year.

CLASSIFICATION OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

				Llandeilo R.D.C.		C.C.C.	
				1957	1958	1957	1958
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	6	4	68	41
Measles	..	..	..	5	89	122	1731
Pneumonia	..	..	..	5	1	157	114
Erysipelas	..	..	..	2	2	12	6
Puerperal Pyrexia	..	..		0	0	10	6
Poliomyelitis	..	..	..	0	0	4	0
Whooping Cough	..	..		7	1	137	142
Dysentery	..	..	..	0	0	216	19
Food Poisoning	..	..		3	0	12	4
Meningococcal Infection	..			1	0	1	2
Totals				29	97		

.....

For the 12th year in succession no cases of Diphtheria occurred in the district, but a few cases are still occurring throughout the country, so parents should therefore ensure that their children are protected by inoculation. This can be obtained from the family doctor or at the local Infant Welfare Clinics.

0—5 years: 141. 5—14 years: 1.

Smallpox:

Poliomyelitis:

During the year vaccination against poliomyelitis was given to children under 15 years of age, and also to certain other groups. Separate figures for the district are not available.

	Received 2 injections	Received 1 injection
Children under 15 years	14,347	800
Persons 15—25 years	744	0
Expectant mothers	418	12
Others	133	0
Total number of children under 15 years of age vaccinated since the introduction of scheme	23,149 (65% of those eligible)	

Fourteen new cases of tuberculosis were notified during the year, and one other case came into the district from another area. Eleven were suffering from respiratory disease—6 male and 5 female. Two of the men were first notified after their death.

There were three cases of non-respiratory disease—all male.

	1957	1958
Total Notifications ..	18	14
Respiratory ..	9 male. 7 female	6 male. 5 female
Non-respiratory ..	1 male. 1 female	3 male. 0 female

The following table gives the age distribution of all new cases notified during 1958.

Age	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	
0—15 years	0	1	0	0	1
15—20 years	0	2	0	0	2
20—25 years	0	0	0	0	0
25—30 years	0	0	1	0	1
30—40 years	1	2	1	0	4
40—50 years	1	0	0	0	1
50—60 years	0	0	1	0	1
60 and over	4	0	0	0	4
Total	6	5	3	0	14

TUBERCULOSIS RATES 1958.

	Llandeilo R.D.C.	C.C.C.
Case Rates:-		
Respiratory	0.43	0.85
Non-respiratory	0.07	0.16
Death Rate:-		
Respiratory	0.12	0.11
Non-respiratory	0.00	0.01

MASS RADIOGRAPHY.

During the year the Mass Radiography Unit visited Brynamman and Penygroes.

Herewith is a Table of Analysis in age groups.

BRYNAMMAN.

	Grand Total		Under 15		15-24		25-34		35-44		45-59		60 and over	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Total Number examined	288	219	3	3	26	13	48	47	58	52	103	74	50	30
Number found to be abnormal (a & b)	39	2							8	1	17		12	1
Classification of abnormal cases:														
(a) Requiring further observation	2	1								1		1	1	
(b) Other abnormalities of the chest	35	36							8		16		11	1

BRYNAMMAN.

Classification of Abnormality	Male	Female	Total
A. Tuberculous Abnormalities ..			
Healed Primary Tuberculosis ..			
B. Non-tuberculous Abnormalities			
Abnormality of the bony thorax and soft tissues	0	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm	0	0	0
Pneumoconioses without P.M.F. Stage 1,2,3, to be indicated			
1.	5	0	5
2.	14	0	14
3.	5	0	5
Pneumoconiosis with P.M.F. ..	10	0	10
Pulmonary fibrosis—non-tuber- culous (to include asthma and bronchitis)	1	0	1
Totals	35	1	36

PENYGROES.

	Grand Total		Under 15		15-24		25-34		35-44		45-59		60 and over	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Total Number examined	304	278	11	12	63	33	42	49	56	68	95	77	37	39
Number found to be abnormal (a & b)	56	61					3		14	2	27	12	12	3
Classification of abnormal cases:														
(a) Requiring further observation	2	4							1	1			1	1
(b) Other abnormalities of the chest	54	57					3		13	1	27		11	2

PENYGROES.

Classification of Abnormality	Male	Female	Total
A. Tuberculous Abnormalities ..			
Healed Primary Tuberculosis ..	2	2	4
B. Non-tuberculous Abnormalities			
Abnormality of the bony thorax and soft tissues	0	0	0
Malignant Neoplasm	0	0	0
Pneumoconioses without P.M.F. Stage 1,2,3, to be indicated			
1.	5	0	5
2.	22	0	22
3.	7	0	7
Pneumoconiosis with P.M.F. ..	15	0	15
Pulmonary fibrosis—non-tuber- culous (to include asthma and bronchitis)	2	1	3
Acquired cardiac abnormalities and abnormalities of the vascular system	1		1
Totals	54	3	57

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948—SECTION 47.

Visits were paid to seven old people living alone who were reported to be in need of care and attention, but no Order for Admission was required.

HOME PRODUCED LIQUID WHOLE EGG.

During the year the Welsh Board of Health asked us to co-operate in an enquiry into the condition of the liquid egg trade in this country.

Extensive sampling had already been carried out on imported egg products, but little was known about the conditions under which eggs were broken out and sold locally.

Of the three Egg Packing Stations in our area, only two dealt with liquid egg—B. T. Enoch of Llangadog and B. T. Evans & Sons, Pumpsaint. From March until early December, regular samples of liquid egg were collected from these two and sent to Dr. Morgan at the Public Health Laboratory, Carmarthen, for bacteriological examination.

Liquid egg is an ideal medium for the growth of bacteria and food poisoning organisms may occasionally be present on the shells, or be unwittingly introduced by unhygienic practices. It is, therefore, very gratifying to be able to report that every sample in our area was found to be satisfactory and free from pathogenic bacteria.

DETAILS OF WATER AND SEWERAGE SCHEMES.

WATER SUPPLIES:

- (a) **Schemes completed during the year:**
Nil.
- (b) **In progress during the year:**
Comprehensive Water Supply Scheme Stages 1 & 2.
- (c) **Awaiting approval of the Ministry:**
Pantglas and Dryslwyn Water Scheme.
- (d) **Schemes under consideration 31st December, 1958:**
Brynamman, Cwmllynfell Augmentation Scheme.

SEWERAGE DISPOSAL:

- (a) **Schemes completed during the year:**
Ffairfach and Llandeilo Urban Joint Sewerage Scheme
- (b) **In progress during the year:**
Crugybar Sewerage Scheme.
Penpound Sewerage Scheme.
- (c) **Schemes awaiting approval of the Ministry:**
Penygroes and Blaenau Sewerage Scheme.
Gate Road Sewerage Scheme.
Capel Hendre Sewerage Scheme.
Carmel and Pantllyn Sewerage Scheme.
Tyeroes Joint Sewerage Scheme.
Llansawel Sewerage Scheme.
- (d) **Schemes under consideration 31st December, 1958:**
Llangadog Sewerage Scheme.
Pumpsaint Sewerage Scheme.
Rhosamman Sewerage Scheme.
Cilyewm Village Sewerage Scheme.
Llansadwrn Sewerage Scheme.
Llanwrda Sewerage Scheme.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

1. Inspection for purpose of provision as to health.

Premises	Inspections	No. of written notices	Prosecutions
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by L.As. ..	4	-	-
(ii). Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by L.A. ..	14	-	-
(iii). Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by L.A. (excluding outworkers premises)	3	-	-
Total	21	-	-

2. Cases in which defects found.

Number of Defects

	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	No. of Prosecutions
Want of cleanliness	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature ..	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation ..	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences:-				
(a) insufficient	-	-	-	-
(b) unsuitable or defective	2	2	-	-
(c) not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-
Other offences not including offences relating to outwork	-	-	-	-
Total	2	2	-	-

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1958.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council :

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Olley and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting for your information my Seventh Annual Report.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS.

Dairies	15
Butchers Shops	31
Cafes	10
Ice Cream Premises	37
Confectioners	23
Canteens and Clubs	7
Food Factories	11
Bakehouses	16
Grocers and Greengrocers	101
Fried Fish Shops	9
Licensed Premises	43
Slaughterhouses	857
Schools	2
Factories	21
Water Supplies	389
Drainage	318
Piggeries	3
Public Conveniences	11
Rodent Destruction	2544
Refuse Disposal	39
Infectious Diseases	7
Filthy and Verminous Premises	15
Dwelling Houses (Public Health Act)	34
Dwelling Houses (Housing Act)	279
Dwelling Houses (Miscellaneous) Inspections	191
Council Houses	78
Nuisances (Miscellaneous)	68
Total	5149

SUMMARY OF NOTICES SERVED.

Number of Statutory Notices served	49
Number of Statutory Notices complied with	37
Number of Preliminary Notices served	19
Number of Preliminary Notices complied with	19
Work undertaken by Council in default	3

WATER SUPPLY.

Table of Analysis of Samples for the year.

(a) PUBLIC SUPPLIES:

Bacteriological Examination:

Number of Samples collected	..	117
Number of Samples satisfactory	..	108
Number of Samples unsatisfactory		9

(b) PRIVATE SUPPLIES:

Bacteriological Examination:

Number of Samples collected	..	101
Number of Samples satisfactory	..	62
Number of Samples unsatisfactory		39

For the first time in the history of the Council it is possible to pass lightly over the problem relating to unsatisfactory private water supplies. Not because the problem is no longer with us, but because we have now reached a stage in our history when we can clearly see that this problem as a major problem, will very shortly be resolved.

The Comprehensive Water Supply Scheme, no longer a hazy vision, an idle dream, is a reality, and eclipses all other water supply matters. The countryman's dream is even now being vigorously translated into a language which he understands—indeed the only language he understand, reservoirs, pipe-lines, and water connections to farm and cottage.

At the close of the year under review, 32,000 yards of mains in Contract No. 1 had been laid, 18,000 yards in Contract No. 2, and excavation for the reservoir in Contract No. 3 had commenced.

In my Annual Report for 1957, I wrote:-

‘It is gratifying to believe that when the Annual Report for 1958 comes to be written, it will be possible to note that the Comprehensive Water Supply Scheme, which in its entirety is to spread its tentacles to embrace so many of your most rural parishes, is proceeding with vigour and expedition.’

50,000 yards of mains and the commencement of a reservoir is surely a vigorous effort.

The problem of long service connections to properties which I referred to in my last Annual Report, has since been carefully examined by the Sewerage and Water Supplies Committee, and the recommendations made by this Committee, and subsequently accepted by the Council, will undoubtedly result in a much greater number of properties being brought within the scope of the scheme.

HOUSE CONNECTIONS.

	Main Supplies				Private Supplies	
	Direct to House		By Standpipe		No. of Houses	Popul- ation
	No. of Houses	Popul- ation	No. of Houses	Popul- ation		
Llandingat Without	2	7	—	—	85	252
Llandeilo Rural ..	616	2156	57	193	415	1452
Llanegwad ..	128	448	24	73	179	601
Llangadog	243	845	11	29	219	715
Llanddeusant ..	14	57	7	15	86	211
Llandyfeisant ..	8	27	—	—	11	49
Llanfairarybryn ..	52	163	7	25	132	448
Llanfihangel Aber.	226	882	26	120	68	195
Llanfynydd ..	33	101	15	29	120	382
Llangathen ..	26	53	30	92	112	451
Llansadwrn ..	40	144	14	46	113	336
Llansawel	44	122	22	44	120	357
Llanwrda	22	78	—	—	93	321
Talley	28	60	7	2	90	278
Conwil Caio ..	33	93	9	28	293	844
Cilycwm	34	101	—	—	174	341
Myddfai	6	21	—	—	155	515
Bctws	284	955	—	—	11	39
Llandybie	2131	7734	12	39	95	283
Quarter Bach ..	919	2662	12	38	11	47

DRAINAGE AND CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The evil which has persisted for so many years in the village of Ffairfach in the form of abominable sanitation, was diminished by fifty per cent. by the end of the current year—one half of the dwellings had been connected to the Council's new sewer. Should the present excellent progress continue, the whole of the village will be thus adequately sewered within the next nine or twelve months.

The final amended drawings relating to the Llansawel Sewerage Scheme as agreed with the Welsh Office, Ministry of Housing and Local Government, were submitted to the Department in early December, with a request that the Department approve commencement of the work on the Scheme at an early date.

Although the Council has vigorously pursued the Penygroes, Capel Hendre and Gatac Sewerage Schemes, the close of the current year gave no indication that finality would be reached at an early date. It is only to be hoped that this dismal picture will be totally obliterated in the coming year.

It is a source of pride and satisfaction to me that the Council have finally given favourable consideration to one of my long outstanding recommendations—the purchase of a modern cesspool emptier. The policy which you have decided upon relating to the emptying of cesspools and which is to have a trial period of twelve months, appears to be a very fair one, and it will be interesting to receive the reports and comments when this is reviewed at the end of the trial period.

The charges decided upon are as follows:-

(a) Private Dwellings situate within the District:

That cesspools serving private dwellings shall be cleared twice free of charge and that for each subsequent visit a charge of five shillings be made during the trial period.

(b) Public Houses, Residential Hotels and Guest Houses situate within the District:

That the undermentioned charges be made for clearing the cesspools:

1st Service—10/-	4th Service—£3
2nd Service—£1	5th Service—£4
3rd Service—£2	6th Service—£5

(c) Properties Outside District:

That an economic charge be made.

RODENT CONTROL.

Summary of Control Measures.

Type of Property	No. of Inspections	No. of Treatments	No. Sect. 4 Notices	Block Treatments		
				No.	No. of Premises	No. of Manhole
L.A. Property	25	17	—			
Dwellings	2106	1389	—			
Business Property	3	3	—	15	119	11
Agric. Property	410	—	—			
Total	2544	1409	—	15	119	11

The year under review may be described as one of steady, but nevertheless, relentless effort, to hold our own against the rat population. This effort has not been in vain; complaints from every part of your area have been promptly dealt with throughout the year, and no infestation was discovered of a really major character.

Agricultural premises have been canvassed throughout the year with a view to offering the farmer a rodent control service, thus anticipating the period ahead from 1st April, 1959, when Local Authorities will be responsible for the control of rats and mice on such premises. The results of this canvas, though satisfactory from the point of view of rodent destruction, proved unsatisfactory as a possible source of revenue to the Council. Warfarin, which is comparatively harmless to farmyard animals, yet lethal to rats, is widely known amongst the agriculturalists, and as it is also simple of application, it is widely made use of by the farmer himself. Practically every farm surveyed during the year has shown proof of this. Not only does the farmer state that he is making use of this poison, but he proudly presents his stock for examination. And the comparative freedom of farms from evidence of infestation is further proof that the farmer today is indeed a staunch ally in our effort to exterminate these pests.

The bi-annual maintenance treatment of sewers has again shown that the Council's principal sewers are free from infestation. Certain of the older sewers, particularly those serving the Penygroes and Carmel areas, continue to be a source of concern, nor is it likely that this problem will be resolved until such time as the proposed new schemes for these areas are completed.

REFUSE.

The indiscriminate tipping of household refuse into streams and upon any convenient plot of waste land, has been a source of grave concern to the department during the year.

Were this offence confined to the South Sanitary District only, I would probably conclude that the once weekly collection was inadequate, inasmuch as the householders generally, having little scope to burn much of their refuse such as papers, cartons, etc., without causing a nuisance to others, were thus enforced to place all their refuse in their receptacles, then finding these filled to capacity days before the public collection, were disposing of all surplus refuse on any convenient site. But the habit is equally prevalent in the purely rural parts of your area, where there is every opportunity of disposing of so much of the refuse by burning without fear of causing serious nuisance.

A twice-weekly collection service would be welcomed by all rate-payers, I feel sure, but would this solve the problem of indiscriminate tipping? I am doubtful that it would. Habits such as I have described die hard.

Every effort has been made, not only throughout the current year, but for many years past, to win the co-operation of these offenders. Signs prohibiting the tipping of refuse have been erected on many sites throughout the area; householders residing near these abominations have been urged by letter and personal visits to refrain from this evil practice; appeals have been made through the media of newspapers and cinema screens. Still the problem remains undiminished. It is only to be hoped that our continued and purposeful efforts along these lines will eventually remove the scales from the eyes of these offenders, that they might see filthy accumulations with the eyes of civilised human beings, as ugly scars on nature's fair skin.

When one is confronted with a host of nuisances arising from the indiscriminate tipping of all manner of putrescible material in the area, it may appear to border on the ridiculous to refer to litter as a serious problem. Difficulty in combating the one nuisance however, has not been allowed to restrain our efforts in this latter direction. The Litter Act of 1958 is a genuine attempt to clean up and render our country far more attractive, and in the months that lie ahead, we must consider seriously the steps that are necessary in our own area to ensure that it remains what it has been for so many centuries—one of the loveliest areas of this lovely country.

Where litterbugs are known to operate, perhaps it would not be out of place to have attached to the litter basket a small plaque bearing the following verses:-

LITTERBUGS.

(With apologies to Giles).

Two pigs aroaming in the copse
In search of dainty food
Stopped short and stood with staring eyes,
Aghast at sight so crude.

A gentle slope, a sparkling stream,
An oak its shade to share,
Then all around and all about
Litter strewn most everywhere.

They gazed upon this sad array
And cursed fair Nature's rapers,
Soiling her gown with bread and peel,
With cartons and with papers.

The little pigs they shook their heads
As through the woods they ran,
And grunted thanks to all their gods
Who made them pig not man.

Wynne David.

MEAT AND OTHER FOOD.

MEAT.

(a) Management:

During the year under review the number of animals that were slaughtered in the private slaughterhouses within your jurisdiction, increased by 2,000 over the preceding year.

The incidence of liver fluke in bovines remained much the same as for the preceding year, but was more than doubled in the case of sheep. Even allowing for the fact that a great number of sheep were slaughtered in the current year, comparative figures point to a much higher incidence over the previous year.

Cysticercus bovis was discovered in four of the 694 beasts inspected and the normal steps were taken to ensure that the meat on reaching the butcher's shop was safe for human consumption.

All occupiers of private slaughterhouses within your district have been furnished with a copy of the draft regulations (Construction and Hygiene) that they may appreciate at an early date what their future commitments are likely to be. Detailed surveys of the slaughterhouses have also commenced in anticipation of the slaughterhouse report which the Council will be required to submit to the Minister within the next few years, soon it will be necessary to hold a series of meetings to discuss this problem in some detail.

(b) Slaughterhouse Policy:

The Slaughterhouses Act, 1958, received the Royal Assent on 1st August, 1958, and came into operation on that date.

Regulations to secure hygienic construction, lay-out and equipment will be made under the existing powers in Section 13 of the 1955 Act and amending regulations to supplement the Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) (No. 2) Regulations, 1954, will be made under the existing powers in Section 2 of the Slaughter of Animals (Amendment) Act, 1954. In each case the existing powers are supplemented in the 1958 Act to enable the standards to be applied on different days to different classes of premises and in different areas. When the new regulations are made they will apply to new slaughterhouses at once and to existing slaughterhouses on dates to be appointed later by the Minister for each local authority district. When the new regulations are in force in respect of a particular slaughterhouse, the local authority will have no power to grant or renew a licence for that slaughterhouse unless the premises conform to the prescribed standards.

The responsibility for enforcement of the provisions of the Factories Acts dealing with the safety, health and welfare of persons employed in slaughterhouses and knacker's yards will rest with the Factory Inspectorate except for those provisions of the Act which are enforced by local authorities.

In due course, each local authority will be required to review and report to the Minister on :-

- (a) the existing and probable future requirements of their district for slaughterhouse facilities, and
- (b) the facilities which are, or are likely to become, available to meet those requirements.

Resolutions under Section 75 or 76 (Restrictions on the use of Private Slaughterhouses) can in future remain in force only if broadly speaking they are based on a public slaughter house occupied by the providing authority and open to all persons requiring the use of the public slaughtering facilities. Section 1 (3) places on the Minister the duty of requiring local authorities to revoke resolutions which do not comply with this condition.

On certain conditions, traders will be entitled to licences for new slaughterhouses of the design and size and in the places that best suit the needs of their individual business, provided that they submit applications within a limited period. This period begins with the making of the new construction regulations and ends in each district with the submission of the local authority's slaughter-house report.

INSPECTION OF FOOD ANIMALS.

The following are details of animals slaughtered and inspected during the year under review, viz:-

Beasts	..	..	694
Calves	..	..	766
Sheep	..	..	8487
Pigs	..	..	1496
Total			.. 11,443

DETAILS OF MEAT CONDEMNED.

BEASTS.

Reason for Condemnation.							Quantity Condemned (lbs.).
Fascioliasis	..	..	..	..	..	..	641
Abscesses	..	..	..	..	..	..	226
Cirrhosis	..	..	..	..	..	..	161
Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	..	23
Peritonitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Hydatid cysts	..	..	..	..	..	..	93
Actinomycosis	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Bruising	..	..	..	..	..	..	31
Telangiectasis	..	..	..	..	..	..	51
Melanosis	..	..	..	..	..	..	28
Pleurisy	..	..	..	..	..	..	33
Echinococcus	..	..	..	..	..	..	116
Necrosis	..	..	..	..	..	..	17
Cysticercus Bovis	..	..	..	..	..	..	80
Putrefaction	..	..	..	..	..	..	84
Inflammation	..	..	..	..	..	..	22
Total							1623

CALVES.

Reason for Condemnation.							Quantity Condemned(lbs.)
Pleurisy	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Immaturity	..	..	..	..	..	..	55
Inflammation	..	..	..	..	..	..	13
Total							76

SHEEP.

Reason for Condemnation.	Quantity Condemned (lbs.).				
Echinococcus	419				
Fascioliasis	782				
Strongylosis	223				
Physiological Degeneration	58				
Abscesses	57				
Pneumonia	76				
Pleurisy	11				
Cysticercus Tenuicollis	23				
Emaciation	115				
Contamination	2				
Bruising	44				
Peritonitis	40				
Inflammation	19				
Total	1869				

PIGS.

Reason for Condemnation.	Quantity Condemned (lbs.).				
Cysticercus Tenuicollis	5				
Pneumonia	117				
Pleurisy	59				
Ascaris Lumbricoides	14				
Total	195				

Grand Total of Meat Condemned:

1 Ton 13 cwts. 67 lbs.

MILK.

Supervision of dairies and distributors' vehicles continued throughout the year, and on the whole, the position may be regarded as highly satisfactory.

It was found necessary to draw the attention of one wholesaler to the offence committed in depositing crates of milk on a public highway to await collection by a retailer. Not only does such a practice afford opportunities for contamination by birds and rodents but the keeping quality is also placed in jeopardy when the milk is exposed to the sun's rays.

One retailer was requested to provide satisfactory storage facilities for his milk and two retailers advised to have their name and address conspicuously displayed on their vehicle.

ICE CREAM.

Fifty three premises are now registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, for the purpose of manufacture and or sale of Ice-cream. These are made up as follows, viz:-

Sale of pre-packed ice-cream	..	..	46
Manufacture and sale (Cold mix method)			1
Manufacture and sale (Hot mix method)			6
			—
Total	..	..	53
			—

Thirty four samples were collected during the year and submitted for bacteriological examination, the results being as follows:-

Grade 1	..	..	14
Grade 2	..	..	12
Grade 3	..	..	5
Grade 4	..	..	3

For many years this trade was under continuous heavy fire from many directions, and the public health inspector himself has fired his share of rounds. This is no longer generally true, though there still exists certain sections of the community who cannot resist that odd shot. The ice-cream manufacturers and vendors today are performing a useful and almost necessitous service, and by and large performing it in a highly satisfactory manner. Good ice-cream is good food, a fact which is now fully appreciated by the trade.

MISCELLANEOUS FOODS AND FOOD PREMISES.

Routine inspections of food premises, including vehicles for the conveyance of food, continued throughout the year. Although numerous offences against the provisions of the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, were discovered, there was no occasion when a kindly reminder did not suffice to rectify matters. On the surface, this is a good record. But is all well at all times. The comparative short period, when measured over a period of a year, that your public health inspectors are able to devote to these establishments is insufficient to detect all the cracked cups, glasses and plates; the dirty or lipstiek smeared crockery; cutlery still bearing traces of a previous meal; the open cuts or sores on the hands or arms of food handlers; the trader who smokes whilst engaged in handling open food, etc. Education of food handlers is not the only answer to safeguarding against these and countless other offences. The remedy in large measure, lies in the hands of the public who patronise the food shops and in particular, the housewife. They must no longer tolerate any food service which cannot claim the highest of hygienic standards and when occasion arises that they discover conditions which they feel are a menace to health, they should not hesitate to inform their public health inspector.

Every citizen is well drilled in this present age to dial 999 should he or she even suspect an emergency of any description. A variation of this drill could well be applied, when our ratepayers are concerned with dangerous or possibly dangerous practice, conditions or sales, in our food premises, whether they be confectioners, ice-cream premises, butchers shops, cafes, public houses or any other type of food premises. The public health department is doing its utmost to safeguard their health; the ratepayers must be prepared to assist us to the utmost. In this way it will be possible to hasten the time when all food handlers will be fully conscious of their responsibilities. Great improvements have taken place in the past few years; conditions and practice in our food shops are good; let us continue to move forward together—local authority, officers and public—that carelessness and indifference in food hygiene which can have serious consequences, may be stamped out altogether.

During the year under review I have had occasion to advise two meat purveyors to improve the standard of the vehicles used by them for the transport of meat. In one case I was successful in persuading the defaulter to provide a new van to replace the old.

One shop only was found to be so far below the hygienic standards required by the Food Hygiene Regulations, that it could be described as unsanitary. Immediate steps were taken to rectify matters, and subsequent visits showed ample proof that the advice and warning given to the occupier has been well heeded.

The following table shows the nature and number of food premises of various types within your area:-

Nature of Business	Number
Grocers and Greengrocers	110
Confectioners	24
Butchers	10
Slaughterhouses	8
Bakeries	5
Cafes	12
Fried Fish Shops	6
Food Factories	4
Canteens	14
Clubs	1
Licensed Premises	93
	287

As a result of informal action, the following improvements were carried out in food premises during the year:-

Interior Decorating	9
Repairs	7
Provision of Sink	7
Replacement of defective Sink ..	1
Provision of wash hand Basin ..	4
Provision of constant hot water ..	7
Provision of nail brush, soap, etc. ..	2
Improved sanitary accommodation	3
Improved drainage	1
Equipment for protection of food ..	11
Receptacles for storage of waste ..	5
Improved fixtures and fittings ..	1
First Aid Equipment	23

FOOD UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION.

The following foods were voluntarily surrendered and condemned as unfit for human consumption, viz:-

Nature of Food	Reason for Condemnation	Quantity
Cheese	Mould	823 lbs.
Butcher's Meat (Shops)	Putrification	14½ lbs.
Dried Fruit	Mould	45 lbs.
Butter	Rancidity	8 lbs.
Tinned Foods	Blown and damage	31 tins

HOUSING.

The following are the house construction figures for the year under review compared with those for the previous year:-

	1958	1957
Number of Council houses erected	14	72
Number of Council houses under construction ..	26	18
Number of private houses erected	19	10
Number of private houses under construction ..	11	20
Number of families rehoused during the year ..	39	53

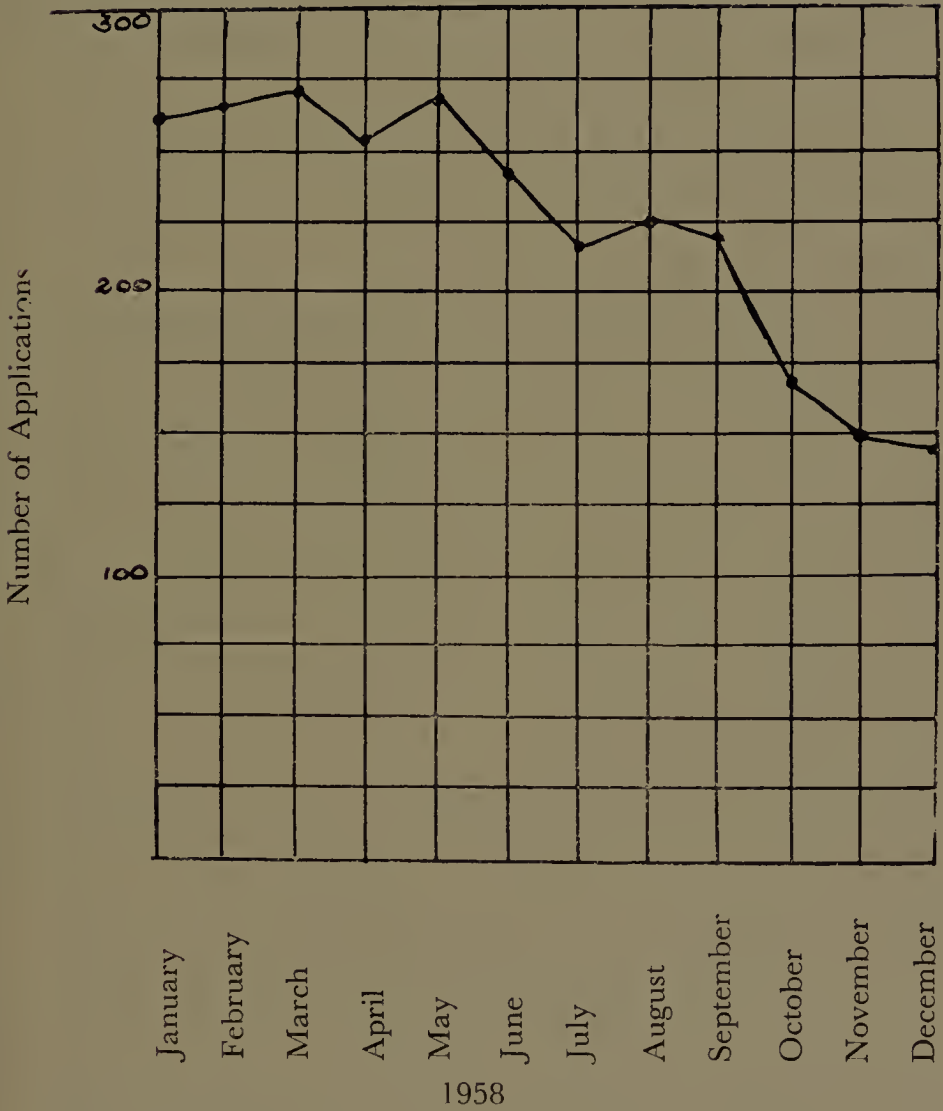
THE HOUSING PROBLEM AS INDICATED BY COUNCIL'S WAITING LIST.

ANALYSIS OF APPLICANTS.

Parish/Ward	No. in Apart- ments	No. of House- holders	No. in Cat. 5 Houses	No. out side area	Total
Cwmllynfell ..	4	2	1	1	8
Brynamman ..	7	9	0	1	17
Upper Betws ..	0	0	0	0	0
Lower Betws ..	6	2	0	0	8
Heolddu ..	0	1	0	0	1
Llandybie ..	13	5	0	1	19
Penygroes ..	11	3	0	0	14
Saron	17	18	1	0	36
Llangathen ..	1	0	0	1	2
Llangadog ..	1	1	0	1	3
Llansadwrn ..	1	4	0	0	5
Llandeilo North	1	0	0	0	1
Llandeilo South	0	0	0	0	0
Llanddeusant ..	0	0	0	0	0
Llansawel ..	1	1	0	0	2
Talley	0	2	0	0	2
Cilycwm ..	0	1	0	0	1
Myddfai ..	0	0	0	0	0
Cynwil Gaeo ..	0	0	0	0	0
Llanwrda ..	2	3	0	1	6
Llanfynydd ..	0	0	0	1	1
Llanfihangel Aber.	3	4	0	0	7
Llanfair-ar-y-bryn	0	0	0	1	1
Llanegwad ..	4	0	0	0	4
Totals	72	56	2	8	138

DIAGRAM INDICATING TREND OF COUNCIL'S WAITING LIST

January—December, 1958.



COMPOSITION OF FAMILIES ON COUNCIL'S WAITING LIST.

Number of Adults per Family							Number of such Families
1	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
1½	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
2	..	..	..	..	..	..	35
2½	..	..	..	..	..	..	35
3	..	..	..	..	..	..	28
3½	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
4	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
4½	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
5	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
5½	..	..	..	..	..	..	0
6	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
6½	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
7 and over	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Total No. of Applicants							138

Number of applicants from South District .. 103

Number of Applicants from North District .. 35

RENT ACT 1957.

During the year under review, 18 applications were received from tenants for certificates of disrepair; 8 undertakings to carry out the scheduled repairs were submitted by landlords; 10 certificates of disrepair were granted and 1 application for a certificate of disrepair refused.

ACTION TAKEN UNDER HOUSING ACT 1957.

Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs (Section 9)	4
Number of houses which were rendered fit by owner after service of formal notice (Section 9)	4
Number of houses which were rendered fit by local authority in default of owners (Section 10)	Nil
Number of houses reconstructed as a result of action under Section 16	10
Number of houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders	6
Number of notices served in respect of dwelling houses overcrowded	Nil
Number of dwelling houses in which overcrowding was abated after service of formal notice	Nil
Number of separate tenement or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were made (Section 18) ..	Nil
Number of tenement or underground rooms in respect of which closing order determined the tenement room having been rendered fit	Nil
Number of unfit houses closed (Section 17)	11
Condemned houses reconstructed (Section 24)	2

CONCLUSION.

I beg to conclude my report with an expression of thanks to all members of the Council for their kindness, interest and tolerance; to all members of the department, who by their loyalty and co-operation have tended to ease my task; and to all heads of departments and their staffs for their kindness and assistance throughout the year.

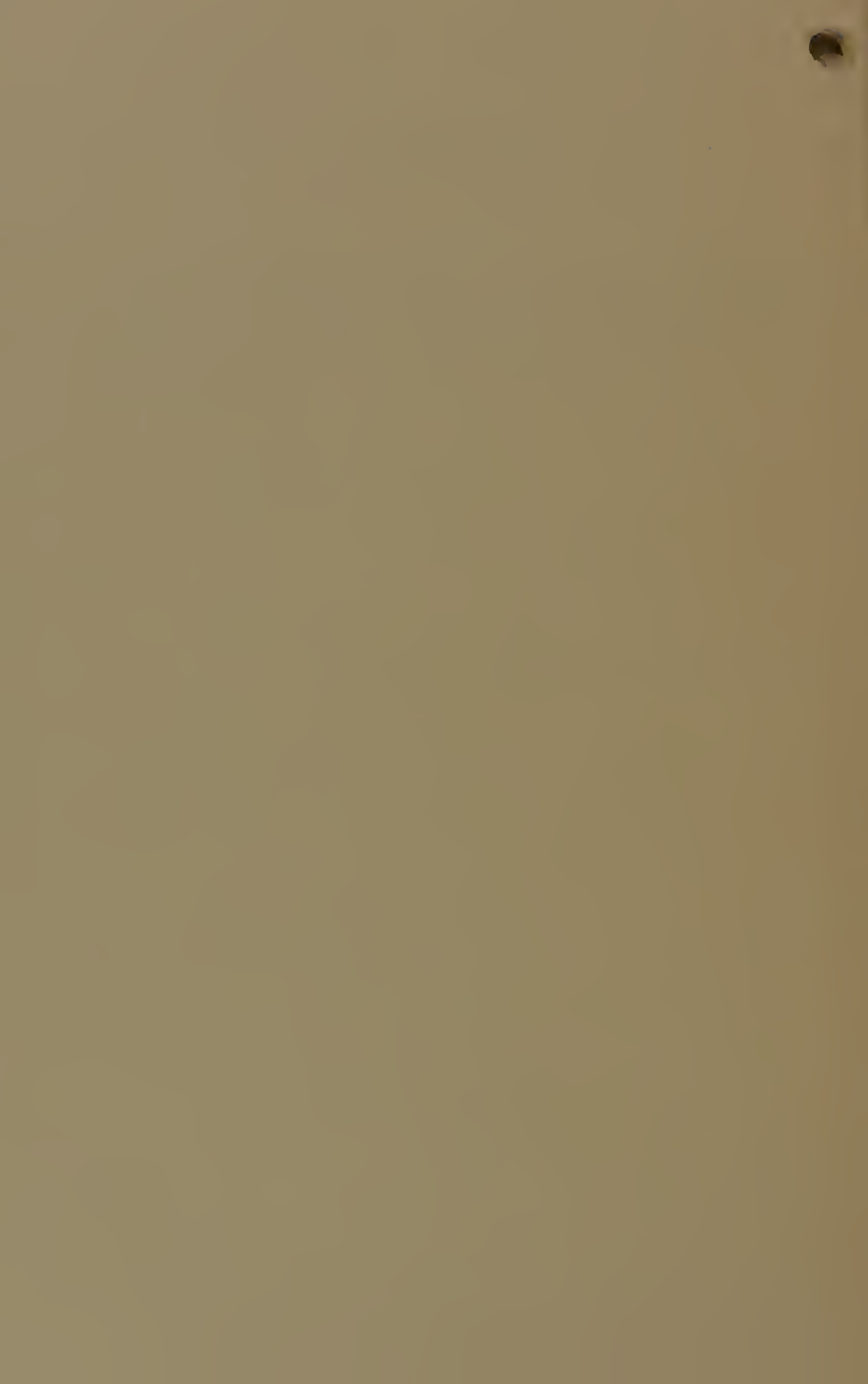
I am, Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Olley and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

G. THOMAS,

Senior Public Health Inspector.





WELSH CHURCH OF HEALING
16 DEC 1959
A.